



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY MARCH 18, 2005  
VOL. 52 NO. 33

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week are trending unchanged in the West, higher in the East and Midwest. Trade sentiment was mixed, ranging steady to firm in all areas. Demand covered the full range, best for retail ads and fast food. Also, due to the upcoming holiday, interest began to focus on other meat items, such as hams, turkeys, and other more traditional items. Supplies were overall in good supply to close balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate entering the weekend. Breast items were balanced to well cleared, but becoming more available, particularly bone-in. Dark meat was mixed, but obtainable, and wings were at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**Preliminary report** Prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 21-MAR-2005 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A (Including branded product)

| AREAS                                     | MAJORITY    | RANGE       | WTD AVG | LOADS |
|---|-------------|-------------|---------|-------|
| Delivered to First Receivers              |             |             |         |       |
| Chicago                                   | 67.00-70.00 | 64.00-77.00 | 69.67   | 27    |
| New York                                  | 71.00-74.00 |             |         |       |
| Los Angeles                               | 80.00       |             |         |       |
| <b>Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent</b> |             |             |         |       |
| Mississippi                               | 74.00-76.00 | 69.00-80.00 | 74.10   | 90    |

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

| LOADS | RANGE       | PRELIM. WTD. AVG. |
|-------|-------------|-------------------|
| 974   | 69.75-76.00 | 73.88             |

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

| ITEM             | WTD. AVG.<br>(CENTS PER POUND) | VOLUME<br>(000 POUNDS) |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| LINE RUN TENDERS | 176.00                         | 1,239                  |
| BREASTS - B/S    | 152.50                         | 5,637                  |
| BREASTS - WHOLE  | 86.00                          | 1,308                  |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 94.50                          | 992                    |
| LEG QUARTERS     | 32.00                          | 6,938                  |
| WINGS            | 106.50                         | 2,935                  |

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**MIDWEST** Preliminary prices were up 1 cent in Chicago for next week's trading. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to firm. Offerings light to adequate with some out front product showing for next week. Movement overall was light to fairly good through all channels retail features, and fast food demand continue providing best consumer interest. Floor stocks were adequate to closely balanced. Weights were desirable. Trading on parts was light and selective. Offerings increasing on breast items, large wings were available leg items snug. The market tone was steady on all items but large wings were cautiously steady to weak.

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was at least steady. Demand entering the weekend was fair to moderate, best for active ads, fast food, and where weekend needs increased. Supplies of all sizes were in good balance to well cleared. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate with supplies usually clearing. Breast items were balanced to close, dark meat was available, and wings were more than adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to fair and generally unaggressive as dealers look to other more traditional Holiday items. Offerings of lighter size birds were fully sufficient for current trade needs; 3 pound and heavier sizes were in close balance to well cleared. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in good balance to adequate. Thighs were well cleared; other dark meat cuts were more than sufficient for current needs. Wings were available and slow to clear.

**WESTERN** Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady overall with trading reported for next week's deliveries at generally unchanged prices on regular commitments and unchanged to higher on new negotiations. Offerings were adequate. Buying activity was fair. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best where features in progress. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light and unaggressive as buyers looked to stock up on hams, turkeys, and other traditional fare in advance of the upcoming Holiday. Seller offerings were adequate and in generally good balance, particularly on the 3.00 pound sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 72 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

### BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| RANGE            | 67-91                    |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | 77.94                    |
| NO. OF BOXES     | 4,859                    |
| CUMULATIVE       | 03/14/05-03/18/05 75.42  |
|                  | 03/15/04-03/19/04 77.55  |
| NO. OF BOXES     | 03/14/05-03/18/05 27,843 |
|                  | 03/15/04-03/19/04 35,269 |

| MAR 17   |                   |                        |          |         | SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS             |               |                        |         |                      | MAR 18  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|----------|---------|---|---------------|------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|--|
| POUNDS   |                   |                        |          |         | POUNDS  |               |                        |         |                      | WEEKLY  |  |
| ITEM   | (000)             | RANGE                  | MAJORITY | WTD AVG | (000)   | RANGE         | MAJORITY               | WTD AVG | (000)                | WTD AVG |  |
| BREAST - B/S   | 590               | 148.00-156.00          | -        | 151.36  | 630   | 145.00-153.00 | 148-150                | 149.35  | 3,266                | 152.18  |  |
| TENDERLOINS  | 178               | 149.00-205.00          | 153-157  | 155.11  | 253   | 150.00-200.00 | 153-157                | 156.46  | 1,097                | 154.77  |  |
| BREAST - LINE RUN  | 131               | 90.00-106.00           | 90-93    | 92.77   | 86  | 89.00-105.00  | 90-93                  | 93.06   | 484                  | 93.83   |  |
| FRONT HALVES   | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                        |          |         | TOO FEW TO REPORT                               |               |                        |         | 265                  | 81.19   |  |
| LEGS   | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                        |          |         | TOO FEW TO REPORT                               |               |                        |         | 230                  | 42.65   |  |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK)  | 510               | 29.00-34.00            | 30       | 30.16   | 510   | 29.00-33.00   | 30                     | 29.90   | 2,397                | 30.04   |  |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10)  | 1,000             | 31.00-36.00            | 31-33    | 32.04   | 1,085   | 30.00-35.00   | 31-33                  | 31.94   | 5,060                | 32.28   |  |
| WINGS (WHOLE)  | 305               | 70.00-109.00           | 102-106  | 101.25  | 305   | 70.00-109.00  | -                      | 101.25  | 1,395                | 100.77  |  |
| WINGS (CUT)  | 485               | 85.00-125.00           | 119-122  | 116.88  | 525   | 103.00-122.00 | 119-122                | 117.93  | 2,284                | 117.83  |  |
| DRUMSTICKS   | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                        |          |         | 52  | 35.00-56.00   | -                      | 39.27   | 285                  | 43.20   |  |
| THIGHS   | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                        |          |         | TOO FEW TO REPORT                               |               |                        |         | 155                  | 40.81   |  |
| B/S THIGHS   | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                        |          |         | TOO FEW TO REPORT                               |               |                        |         | 420                  | 94.95   |  |
| *****  |                   |                        |          |         | *****   |               |                        |         |                      |         |  |
| WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  |                   |                        |          |         | WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS |               |                        |         |                      |         |  |
| TRADING FOR MAR 17, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.  |                   |                        |          |         | TRADING FOR MAR 18, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.           |               |                        |         |                      |         |  |
| <u>RANGE</u>   |                   | <u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u> |          |         | <u>RANGE</u>                                    |               | <u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u> |         | <u>5-DAY AVERAGE</u> |         |  |
| 54.00 - 59.50  |                   | 56.08                  |          |         | 53.50 - 59.00                                   |               | 56.29                  |         | 55.61                |         |  |
| The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy. |                   |                        |          |         |   |               |                        |         |                      |         |  |

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate entering the weekend as dealers were selective. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts and tenderloins were in good balance to well cleared; bone- in breasts were more available than earlier in the week, and noted as adequate to at least adequate for current needs. Dark meat cuts were generally sufficient, with the exception of thighs which were in close balance. Wings remained available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady on tenderloins; steady to fully steady on breast items. Wings were no better than steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

MAR 17, 2005

| MAR 18, 2005               |                      |           |         |                      |           |         |         |           |  | MAR 18, 2005 WEEKLY |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|--|---------------------|
| ITEM                       | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS | WTD AVG | VOL/LBS   |  |                     |
| BREAST - B/S               | 160                  | 154.60    | 700,520 | 160                  | 156.16    | 564,640 | 153.85  | 3,407,241 |  |                     |
| TENDERLOINS                | 155-160              | 154.69    | 169,200 | 155-160              | 153.81    | 50,760  | 155.02  | 448,343   |  |                     |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS         | 92-93                | 97.71     | 157,000 | 92-93                | 99.03     | 98,280  | 98.18   | 580,640   |  |                     |
| BREAST - LINE RUN          | 92                   | 91.90     | 84,200  | 92                   | 91.75     | 82,600  | 92.36   | 471,240   |  |                     |
| LEGS                       | 44-45                | 44.69     | 246,440 | 44-45                | 50.04     | 97,080  | 44.55   | 1,135,680 |  |                     |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK)        | 31-32                | 32.13     | 246,440 | 31-32                | 32.07     | 230,200 | 31.95   | 1,527,786 |  |                     |
| DRUMSTICKS                 | 31-32                | 38.52     | 142,040 | 31-32                | 36.92     | 208,040 | 36.54   | 843,020   |  |                     |
| THIGHS                     | 38-39                | 46.62     | 64,160  | 38-39                | 45.67     | 63,880  | 45.94   | 349,500   |  |                     |
| B/S THIGHS                 | 96-97                | 93.85     | 96,880  | 96-97                | 96.09     | 88,360  | 94.66   | 401,760   |  |                     |
| WINGS (WHOLE)              | 100-101              | 106.73    | 182,600 | 100-101              | 103.59    | 121,000 | 103.81  | 692,960   |  |                     |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12                | 12.28     | 25,520  | 10-12                | 11.15     | 14,840  | 11.76   | 91,080    |  |                     |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)      | 30-35                | 27.82     | 15,320  | 30-35                | 31.77     | 8,800   | 28.86   | 83,840    |  |                     |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS)          | 60-65                | 64.18     | 20,440  | 60-65                | 65.05     | 20,000  | 64.45   | 100,160   |  |                     |

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

#### ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

| SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS |                |        |                |         |      |      |             |      |                  | RANGE  |
|---|----------------|--------|----------------|---------|------|------|-------------|------|------------------|--------|
| ESTIMATED (1,000)   | ACTUAL (1,000) | AVG WT | ACTUAL (1,000) | AVG WTS |      |      |             |      |                  |        |
| Alabama   | 3,787          | 3,988  | 3,732          | 3,922   | 5.24 | 5.27 | 3,981       | 5.19 | FRESH FRYERS     | 97-99  |
| Arkansas  | 5,183          | 5,455  | 5,224          | 5,350   | 5.02 | 4.99 | 5,067       | 4.96 | ROASTERS 4# & UP | 99-107 |
| Delmarva  | 2,166          | 2,087  | 1,889          | 2,176   | 5.46 | 5.54 | 2,130       | 5.40 | HENS UNDER 5#    |        |
| KY-LA-TN  | 2,357          | 2,206  | 2,155          | 2,132   | 4.96 | 5.09 | 2,076       | 5.09 | HENS OVER 5#     | 65-73  |
| Mississippi   | 3,045          | 3,019  | 2,861          | 3,050   | 5.39 | 5.56 | 2,826       | 5.57 | DUCKS            |        |
| North Carolina  | 2,690          | 2,533  | 2,471          | 2,463   | 6.49 | 6.48 | 2,579       | 6.40 | RABBITS-WHOLE    |        |
| Texas   | 2,550          | 2,650  | 2,430          | 2,280   | 4.97 | 5.11 | 3,443       | 5.25 | RABBITS-CUT UP   |        |
| Total   | 21,778         | 21,938 | 20,762         | 21,373  | 5.31 | 5.37 | 22,102      | 5.34 |                  |        |
| Mon-Fri   | 109,321(A)     |        |                |         |      |      | 107,644 (A) |      |                  |        |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 18-Mar-05 and 19-Mar-05 is estimated to be 32,582,000 head down 1.76 percent from a week ago and up 8.82 percent from a year ago.  
(Last week 33,166,000, last year 29,940,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 19-Mar-05 is estimated to be 156,920,000 head down 0.45 percent from a week ago, and up 2.56 percent from a year ago.  
(Last week 157,630,000, last year 153,006,000)

| SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS |          |         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RANGE |
|---|----------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|
| FRESH FRYERS  | ICE PACK | 105-107 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP  | DRY PACK | 105-108 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| HENS OVER 5#  | ICE PACK | 108-111 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| DUCKS   | DRY PACK | 111     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| RABBITS-WHOLE   | ICE PACK | 89-93   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| RABBITS-CUT UP  | DRY PACK | 89-95   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
|   |          | 180-192 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 05-Mar-05 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ Food service  
 (B) Retail  
 (C) Deboning  
 4.20 Lbs. & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs. 5.26 Lbs. & Up  
 -----THOUSANDS-----

|               | (A) Fast food/ Food service | (B) Retail | (C) Deboning |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Head          | 26,451                      | 23,762     | 51,490       |
| Avg Weight    | 3.56                        | 4.70       | 6.35         |
| % of total /1 | 26%                         | 23%        | 51%          |

#### Comparisons

|               | (A) Fast food/ Food service | (B) Retail | (C) Deboning |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Last week     | 27,994                      | 20,402     | 50,222       |
| Avg Weight    | 3.67                        | 4.75       | 6.39         |
| % of total /1 | 28%                         | 21%        | 51%          |

|                      | (A) Fast food/ Food service | (B) Retail | (C) Deboning |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Same week, yr ago /2 | 25,738                      | 21,046     | 49,219       |
| Avg Weight           | 3.80                        | 4.72       | 6.93         |
| % of total /1        | 27%                         | 22%        | 51%          |

|              | (A) Fast food/ Food service | (B) Retail | (C) Deboning |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| To date/2005 | 234,348                     | 192,182    | 432,813      |
| To date/2004 | 227,293                     | 191,472    | 383,146      |

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

#### **LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** (Preliminary)

| W/E 12-Mar-2005 | YOUNG CHICKENS | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS | DUCKS |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|
|                 | 157,630        | 1,720      | 1,317      | 3,037      | 506   |
| Avg Wt          | 5.16           | 3.38       | 7.99       | 5.38       | 6.68  |
| Last week       | 160,095        | 1,547      | 1,451      | 2,998      | 529   |
| Same wk yr ago  | 153,179        | 1,344      | 1,165      | 2,509      | 487   |
| Avg Wt          | 5.06           | 3.43       | 8.15       | 5.62       | 6.69  |
| To-date/2005    | 1,568,694      | 14,535     | 12,919     | 27,454     | 5,087 |
| To-date/2004    | 1,532,632      | 12,737     | 12,646     | 25,383     | 4,568 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 161.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 159.5 million head, or 2.4 million less than estimated available.

#### **GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION -**

|                        | RANGE          | Mar 15, 2005     | RANGE           |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Muscovy Ducks - Drakes | .80 - .90      | Geese 9-14 LBS   | .75 - .80       |
| Muscovy Ducks - Hens   | .75 - .80      | Pigeons          | 3.00 - 4.00ea.  |
| Red Fowl 4-5 LBS       | .50 - .60      | White Pigeons    | 4.00 - 4.10ea.  |
| Red Fowl 5-6 LBS       | .50 - .70      | Rabbits 4-6 LBS  | .80 - 1.20      |
| Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS | .60 - .70      | Rabbits 6-9 LBS  | .70 - .90       |
| Crossbred Roasters     |                | Bunnies          | 2.00 - 7.00ea.  |
| 4-6 LBS                | .90 - 1.10     | Guinea Pigs      | .05 - .25       |
| Crossbred Roasters     |                | Kid Goats        | 30.00 -35.00ea. |
| 7-11 LBS               | .75 - .80      | Doves            | 4.50 - 5.00ea.  |
| Guinea Fowl            | 1.70 - 1.80    |                  |                 |
| Banty Roasters         | 3.25 - 3.50ea. | Total Coops Sold | 995             |
| Banty Hens             | 3.00 - 3.25ea. |                  |                 |

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY** FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 14-MARCH-2005

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

| ORIGIN      | FROZEN  | FRESH   |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| LONG ISLAND | 143-145 | 149-151 |
| MOSTLY      |         |         |

| ORIGIN  | FROZEN  | FRESH   |
|---------|---------|---------|
| MIDWEST | 127-131 | 128-133 |
| MOSTLY  |         |         |

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED, CENTS PER POUND

|                             | RANGE       | MOSTLY      |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)     | 66.00-74.00 | 72.00-74.00 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | 68.00-85.00 | 75.00-78.00 |

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

|        | PRICE       |
|--------|-------------|
| 12 OZ. | 63.36-72.90 |
| 14 OZ. | 69.84-81.00 |
| 16 OZ. | 74.88-89.10 |

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices unchanged to lower. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to very good. Supplies were adequate to close. Schedules full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 14-MARCH-2005

| ORIGIN             | FROZEN  | FRESH   |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| MIDWEST AND OTHERS | 120-135 | 127-139 |

#### **ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON**

| WEEK ENDING  | MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED | MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE | PCT | AVG WT |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----|--------|
| February     | 5 158.5                  | 162.5                  | 98% | 5.35   |
|              | 12 156.3                 | 162.1                  | 96% | 5.29   |
|              | 19 158.6                 | 162.8                  | 97% | 5.16   |
|              | 26 158.3                 | 163.4                  | 97% | 5.28   |
| March        | 5 162.0                  | 163.0                  | 99% | 5.24   |
|              | 12 159.5                 | 161.9                  | 99% | 5.16   |
| Year to date | 1587.7                   | 1613.3                 | 98% |        |
| March        | 19 162.0                 |                        |     |        |
|              | 26 164.0                 |                        |     |        |

#### **BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

|          | Under Federal Inspection |          |       |          |       |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|          | -----THOUSANDS-----      |          |       |          |       |
| W/E      | 03/19/05                 | 03/12/05 | % CHG | 03/20/04 | % CHG |
| Broilers | 156,920                  | 157,630* | -0.45 | 153,006* | +2.56 |
| Cattle   | 590                      | 599      | -02   | 613*     | -04   |
| Hogs     | 1,927                    | 1,918    | 0     | 1,941*   | -01   |

\*ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; slightly lower on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair for light canners; heavy canners were fair to moderate with most available supplies of the heavy canners being used internally. Offerings were generally adequate to at least adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

|                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>        | <b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> |
| <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b> | <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>   |
| 28-33 MAJORITY 28-30            | TOO FEW TO REPORT        |

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

|                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>        | <b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> |
| <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b> | <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>   |
| 30-35 MAJORITY 30-32            | TOO FEW TO REPORT        |

#### **LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand was fair to mostly moderate with offerings of spent hens fully adequate for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to instances less than normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

|              |              |                 |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
|              | <b>RANGE</b> | <b>MAJORITY</b> |
| REMOVAL COST | 3-13         | 8-11            |

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Costs required for disposal were too few to report. Demand was light for adequate offerings from production areas. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

|              |                   |                 |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|              | <b>RANGE</b>      | <b>MAJORITY</b> |
| REMOVAL COST | TOO FEW TO REPORT |                 |

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were mostly ample as additional spent hens move into processing channels. Demand was as reported as fair. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

|              |              |                 |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
|              | <b>RANGE</b> | <b>MAJORITY</b> |
| REMOVAL COST | 0-12         | 3.5-8.5         |

#### **HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 21-MAR-05

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate to at least moderate for the mostly adequate to about adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal to instances less than normal. Sales of finished product were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>RANGE</b>             | <b>MAJORITY</b>   |
| AT FARM BUYER LOADING    | TOO FEW TO REPORT |
| AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING | TOO FEW TO REPORT |
| FOB PLANT                | TOO FEW TO REPORT |

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Sales were too few to report. Demand was moderate for spent hens available for next weeks reduced kills. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was about steady.

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>RANGE</b>          | <b>MAJORITY</b>   |
| AT FARM BUYER LOADING | TOO FEW TO REPORT |

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plants schedules heavy. Offerings ample.

#### **USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

|                        |          |               |                                   |
|------------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Washington, DC</b>  | Voice    | (202)720-6911 | Mike Sheats                       |
|                        | Fax      | (202)720-2403 | (Chief)                           |
| <b>Atlanta, GA</b>     | Voice    | (404)562-5850 | Johnny Freeman                    |
|                        | Fax      | (404)562-5875 | (Officer-In-Charge)               |
|                        | Recorded | (404)562-5856 |                                   |
| <b>Jackson, MS</b>     | Voice    | (601)965-4662 | Gary Brown                        |
|                        | Fax      | (601)965-4661 | (Southern States Area Supervisor) |
| <b>Des Moines, IA</b>  | Voice    | (515)284-4471 | Mary L. Adkins                    |
|                        | Fax      | (515)284-4468 | (Officer-In-Charge)               |
|                        | Recorded | (515)284-4545 |                                   |
| <b>Los Angeles, CA</b> | Voice    | (213)534-1330 | Jim Derby                         |
|                        | Fax      | (213)534-1333 | (Officer-In-Charge)               |
|                        | Recorded | (213)534-1335 |                                   |